PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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REC'D	16	AUG	2004
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference								
LW8032PC	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminal Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)							
International application No.	International filing date (day/months	year) Priority Date (day/month/year)						
PCT/KR 2003/001303	3 July 2003 (03.07.2003)	4 July 2002 (04.07.2002)						
International Patent Classification (IPC) or nati	ional classification and IPC							
IPC ⁷ : G02F 1/13357, G02B 6/00								
Applicant								
SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO L	TD	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						
This international preliminary examand is transmitted to the applicant a	 This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examination Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 							
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.							
This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).								
These annexes consist of a total of sheets.								
3. This report contains indications rela	ating to the following items:							
I. Basis of the opini	on							
II. Priority								
III. Non-establishmen	nt of opinion with regard to novel	ty, inventive step and industrial applicability						
IV. Lack of unity of in	nvention							
V Reasoned stateme citations and expl	V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement							
VI. Certain document	s cited	•						
VII. Certain defects in	VII. Certain defects in the international application							
VIII. Certain observations on the international application								
Date of submission of the demand	Date of	Date of completion of this report						
14.01.2004		29 July 2004 (29.07.2004)						
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AT		zed officer						
Austrian Patent Office Dresdner Straße 87		CDONALLE						
A-1200 Vienna		GRONAU E.						
Facsimile No. 1/53424/200	Telepho	ne No. 1/53424/320						
Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (July 1								



International application No.

PCT/KR:2003/001303

I.		Basis of the report
1.		regard to the elements of the international application:*
	\boxtimes	the international application as originally filed
		the description:
	س	pages, as originally filed
		pages, filed with the demand
		pages, filed with the letter of
	\Box	the claims:
	ш	pages, as originally filed
		pages, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
		pages, filed with the demand
		pages, filed with the letter of
	Г	the drawings:
		pages, as originally filed
		pages, as originally fried pages, filed with the demand
		pages, filed with the letter of
	\Box	
	Ц	the sequence listing part of the description:
		pages, as originally filed pages, filed with the demand
		pages, filed with the letter of
_		
2.	whic	h regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. se elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:
		the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
		the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
		the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/ or 55.3).
3.		h regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international iminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
		contained in the international application in printed form.
		filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
•	Ц	furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
		furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
		The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
		The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.
4.		The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
	-	the description, pages
1		the claims, Nos
	-	the drawings, sheets/fig
5.		This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**
	in thi: 70.17	
		replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (Box I) (July 1998))



International application No. PCT/KR 2003/001303

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement							
1. Statement							
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-20	YES				
	Claims	****	NO				
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-20	YES				
	Claims		NO				
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-20	YES				
	Claims		NO				
Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)							

The following documents have been cited in the Search Report:

D1: US 6419369 B1

D2: US 2001/0055204 A1 D3: JP 2002 006314 A D4: US 5442522 A D5: DE 19844921 A1

Documents D1 to D3 relate to backlight assemblies for liquid crystal display devices and to LCD devices employing such backlight assemblies, comprising a light guide plate with a light incident face, a light reflecting face and a light exiting face. They further comprise a light reflecting member for covering the light incident face so as to form a lamp receiving space, and at least two lamps being spaced apart from each other by a certain distance. The diameters of the lamps are identical. D1 and D3 also disclose a retainer for receiving the light guide plate and the light reflecting member.

The subject matter of independent claims 1 and 11 of the present application differs from this state of the art in that the sum of diameters of the two lamps and the distance between the lamps is longer than the width of the light incident face of the light guide plate. These distinguishing features can be considered to be novel and to include an inventive step.

The feature of claims 5 and 15 are also disclosed in D1 to D3 and can be considered to be novel and to include an inventive step only in combination with the features of claims 1 and 11 to which they refer back.

Document D4 relates to a backlight assembly for LCD devices including a light guide plate formed as a wedge-shaped block. A dual edge-lit device is shown in Fig. 5 having both day and night lamps. As is set out in D4, col.5, line 17-22, the angle of the wedge-shaped block is dependent upon the distance of the lamps from the light incident surface



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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Box V (page 1)

of the light guide plate as well as upon the distance between the lamps. The light incident surface of the light guide plate has curved recesses as also has the light guide plate shown in Fig. 6 of D4. Not disclosed in D4 are the features that a sum of diameters of the two lamps and the distance between the lamps is longer than the width of the light incident face of the light guide plate. Although the features of claims 2, 3, 12 and 13 of the application are known per se from D4, they are considered novel and include an inventive step in combination with the features of claims 1 and 11 to which they refer back.

Document D5 relates to an illumination device, e.g. for LCD devices, having a light guide plate with a light incident side and one lamp. The diameter of the lamp is chosen to be equal or greater than the width of the light incident side of the light guide plate to yield a greater light density at the light exiting face of the plate, see col. 4, line 24-28. The light incident side of the light guide plate my have a groove with a V-shape cross section as shown in Fig.3. The main distinguishing feature between the disclosure of D4 and the subject matter of claims 1 and 11 of the application is the use of two or more lamps and their arrangement within the receiving container. This feature is not rendered obvious by D4.

Hence, the requirements of novelty and inventive step are considered to be complied with for all claims 1-20 of the present application.